

Richmond Dispatch. BY THE CIRCULATION OF THE DISPATCH IS LARGER THAN THE COMBINED CIRCULATION OF ALL THE OTHER DAILY NEWSPAPERS OF THE CITY.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1874.

Communicated to the Richmond Dispatch.

The Petersburg Charter—Will the Governor Approve It?

Richmond, March 3, 1874. The Editor of the State Journal.

You did me the honor to publish in your issue of Saturday an abstract of my argument in support of the proposed charter of the city of Petersburg. Will you permit me to state a few facts which will show that the proposed charter will necessarily result in a great benefit to the city of Petersburg?

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LOCAL MATTERS.

CONFERENCE OF THE COUNCIL.

COMMUNICATED TO THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

Richmond, March 3, 1874.

The City Debt to be Limited to Eighteen Per Cent. of the Value of the Real Estate.

AN UPPER AND LOWER COUNCIL.

THE MAYOR'S VETO.

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Whereas, the Legislature of the State having been requested by petition to amend the charter of the city of Richmond, and whereas this Council, representing the citizens and taxpayers and their interests, being entirely in ignorance of said proposed amendments, and not at all consulted as to the propriety, expediency, or necessity of such amendments as proposed, contrary to the established usages or customs; be it therefore

Resolved, That this Council, through the President, appoint a committee of five members to consult and confer with the legislative committee in charge of the proposed amendments, and to report to the Council on or before the 10th inst.

At a few words by way of good advice and exhortation the Dean conferred diplomas to the following graduates of the School of Medicine: Messrs. Judson Cunningham, James F. Crane, and Oliver H. Hawkins of Richmond; a case of surgical instruments given by Mr. William R. Dufphy, of Grayson county, for the best essay on puerperal convulsions.

Rev. Dr. Curry was introduced as the orator of the occasion, and delivered a most eloquent and interesting address. He said his interest in every improvement of our growing city did not permit him to decline the invitation to take part in these proceedings. The Medical College was important to every inhabitant of the city, for medical science is of indispensable necessity to man. Passing from general considerations, Dr. Curry proceeded to address words of advice and encouragement to the students, and men just entering upon the untrodden and coveted scenes of a busy life.

Elements of success are frequently mistaken. Endowments of genius, possessed by such men as Caesar, Cromwell, Byron, Stonewall Jackson, are rare, and their search shows that success and usefulness are within the reach of every man. In no other profession is success gained without systematic, assiduous toil. Studies nominally ended are really just beginning. Education means an all-embracing totality of development, and he is best fitted for his profession—best equipped for any business—who has the completed mastery of his own mind.

Our most distinguished men and women have been the hardest workers. Numerous biographical illustrations of the indispensableness of intense toil were given. The young men were next enjoined by an honorable ambition to strive for higher honors. Motion is the law of the universe. Distinction, influence, power, are to be gained by the struggle, but in the world's battle-field there are to be fierce encounters, and all that can be summed up in courage will be needed. Infidelity of purpose, indecision of character, letting "I dare not wait upon I would," accomplishes nothing. Failures and disappointments will come, and the student must never fail in never failing in getting up every time he falls. Sheridan, Curran, Bulwer, Savanorah, Colburn, Wayland, Motley, &c., failed in first attempts, but succeeded by pluck and persistence.

Dr. Curry enforced, with much earnestness, the advantage and duty of good government. He said never to be forgotten. External refinement and grace were valuable auxiliaries. Gallantry should be a conspicuous virtue. True politeness is doing good to others, in unselfish disinterestedness, has its source in a pure, loving heart. Doctors especially need to be gentlemen, as they have freedom of access to the poorest and the lowly. A doctor ought to be as sympathetic as a tender girl, as harmless as a dove, as pure as the icicle that hangs from Dian's temple.

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CATHOLIC BENEFICIAL SOCIETY—THIRD ANNUAL MEETING—FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—The third annual meeting of the Catholic Beneficial Society was held at Cathedral Hall last night.

The report of the financial secretary (Mr. Daniel Hamilton) shows the present membership to be 187; a decrease of 27 from last year, of which 18 were dropped from the roll. There were two deaths during the year. The total disbursements for the year were \$2,088.80, of which amount \$1,268.55 was paid in benefits to sick members; \$830 on account of the death assessments; salaries, \$212.50; rent of hall, \$150; loaned out at interest, \$287. The remaining disbursements, amounting to \$420.81, include music at funerals, advertising, printing, expenses of state and national union, etc. The total assets of the Society, including cash in bank and in hand and money loaned at interest, amount to \$1,512.66; due by members at close of secretary's report, \$115.56; most of which was paid last night.

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